

Message Text

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

XMT AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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SUBJECT: REPORT ON SC SESSION IN PANAMA MARCH 15

SUMMARY: AFTERNOON UNSC SESSION DEVOTED TO
ADDRESSES BY 5 LA FON MINS. GUYANA, MEXICO AND
CANADA GENERALLY MODERATE AND CONSTRUCTIVE THOUGH
SUPPORTIVE OF PANAMA ON CANAL ISSUE. PERU PICKED
UP HARD LINE OF TORRIJOS AS EXPECTED. CUBA WENT
CONSIDERABLY BEYOND PANAMA/ PERU LINE IN STANDARD
ANTI- US RHETORIC EVOKING US RESPONSE.

1. PANAMANIAN FON MIN TACK SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF
UN SC SESSION WHICH OPENING AT 5:30 P. M. OPENING WAS
DELAYED FOUR HOUR AND A HALF DUE TO LATE RETURN FROM
CANAL ZONE TOUR BY DELEGATES. TACK
COURTEOUSLY GREETED SCALI' S FIRST SC APPEARANCE
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WITH CONVENTIONAL HONORIFICS.

2. PERUVIAN FON MIN DE LA FLOR PICKED UP THEME AND TONE INITIATED BY TORRIJOS IN MORNING SESSION. AFTER GENERAL REMARKS ABOUT HIS GOVT SEEING THE PROBLEM OF SECURITY AS A PROBLEM OF DEVELOPMENT, HE LAUNCHED INTO THE MEAT OF HIS SPEECH, INTRODUCING THE " PROBLEM OF THE CANAL ZONE". NOTING THAT THE FRUSTRATION INVOLVED IN THE PROBLEM IS A THREAT TO WORLD PEACE, HE EMPHASIZED PERU' S BELIEF THAT THE PARTIES MUST ARRIVE AT A SOLUTION WHICH GUARANTEES " THE TOTAL SOVEREIGNTY AND UNRESTRICTED JURISDICTION OF PANAMA OVER THE TOTALITY OF ITS TERRITORY AND THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FUNCTIONING OF THE CANAL." HE CALLED FOR THE NEUTRALIZATION OF THE CANAL. " FULL DISPOSITION OF ITS RESOURCES BY PANAMA, AND THE TERMINATION OF COLONIAL RULE. THE FON MIN NEXT TURNED TO THE " FORMS OF COERCION AND IMPERIALISM EMPLOYED FOR THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DOMINATION OVER OUR COUNTRIES." HE CALLED THE PELL, GONZALES AND HICKENLOOPER AMENDMENTS OPEN CONTRADICTIONS OF THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL ACCORDS, AND HE DENOUNCED THEM. DE LA FLOR CALLED THE ISOLATION OF THE SISTER REPUBLIC OF CUBA A CONTRAVENTION OF THE PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED BY THE UN CHARTER. HE PRAISED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LA NUCLEAR FREE ZONE. HE CALLED ALL OF THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS THE MOST FLAGRANT CASES MENACING THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF LATIN AMERICA.

3. FOR MIN RAMPHAL OF GUYANA IN ADDRESS GENERALLY LOFTY IN TONE, EXTENDED HIS COUNTRY' S SUPPORT FOR MEETINGS AWAY FROM HQS AND EXPLAINED AT LENGTH THE ADVANTAGES HE SAW IN PERIODIC REGIONAL MEETINGS OF " PREVENTATIVE DIPLOMACY" AS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF DISCHARGING THE SC' S DUTIES. HE NOTED THAT GUYANA' S PECULIAR POSITION RESULTED IN ITS NOT HAVING A VOICE IN THE OAS AND THAT IT WAS EXCLUDED FROM SIGNING THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO ALTHOUGH IT HAD EXPRESSED ITS INTENT TO DO SO. RAMPHAL CALLED FOR THE END TO ALL COLONIAL RELATIONSHIPS, CITING BELIZE IN PARTICULAR.

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4. FON MIN RABASA, OF MEXICO, SPOKE NEXT, NOTING MEXICO' S SUPPORT FROM THE OUTSET FOR THE PANAMANIAN LOCALE FOR THE UNSC. HE NOTED THAT IN 1970 THE UNGA HAD REAFFIRMED THE SOVEREIGNTY OF STATES AND THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN DESTINY WITHOUT INTERVENTION, COERCION OR EXTERNAL PRESSURE, AND UPHELD NATIONAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTERGRITY OF ALL STATES. HE TOO PRAISED THE CREATION OF THE LA NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

AND EMPHASIZED MEXICO' S ROLE IN IT. HE TALKED OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO AVOID THE GROWING GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR NATIONS. THE FON MIN TOOK NOTE OF PANAMA' S PARTICULAR INTEREST, CALLED FOR THE TWO PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO ARRIVE AT A MUTUAL AGREEMENT BUT OBSERVED THAT THE ISSUES AFFECT ALL OF LATIN AMERICA. HE COMMENTED THAT " IN OUR TIME.... IT IS DIFFICULT TO CONCEIVE OF A TREATY IN PERPETUITY ESPECIALLY WHEN UPON ONE OF THE PARTIES IS IMPOSED ALL OR ALMOST ALL OF THE BURDENS AND THE OTHER RECEIVES ALL THE BENEFITS."

5. COLOMBIAN FON MIN VASQUEZ ALSO EXPRESSED SPECIAL SATISFACTION WITH THE CHOICE OF PANAMA AS THE SITE FOR THE SC MEETING AND NOTED COLOMBIA' S SPECIAL TIES OF FRIENDSHIP. VASQUEZ RECALLED THAT LA SUFFERED THE EFFECTS OF A COLONIAL ERA, REVIEWED A LITTLE HISTORY, AND CONCLUDED THAT NO STATE HAS THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER. HE ARGUED THAT THE VIETNAM WAR HAS PROVEN THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A LOCAL CONFLICT. THE FON MIN NOTED THAT IT IS FITTING THAT ALL SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENT STATES HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXPLOIT THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES AND EXAMINED THE ROLE THAT FOREIGN CAPITAL AND INTERNATIONAL LOANS, PROPERLY CONCEIVED, COULD PLAY IN THIS PROCESS. CALLING DOCTRINES OF " INTERVENTION AND SPECIAL INTERESTS" ANACHRONISTIC, HE SAID THAT COLOMBIA MAINTAINS A UNIVERSALITY OF RELATIONSHIP AND UNDERSTANDS THEM AS A COROLLARY OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY, THOUGH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INVOLVED NO RECOGNITION OF OTHER IDEOLOGIES. THIS AMPLE POLICY OF COOPERATION REQUIRES ABSOLUTE RESPECT FOR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE, HE SAID. THE COLOMBIAN CALLED THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO INDISPENSABLE AND PROCLAIMED HIS COUNTRY' S ROLE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADVANCING NEW IDEAS ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, SUCH AS THE PARTRIMONIAL SEA CONCEPT. VASQUEZ CALLED THE PANAMA CANAL PROBLEM A BILATERAL ONE WITH UNDOUBTED REPERCUSSIONS ON THE HEMISPHERE. HE SAID, THOUGH, THAT INTERNATIONAL LAW GRANTS FUNDAMENTAL ATTRIBUTES OF SOVEREIGNTY AND THAT TO DENY THEM EQUALS MAINTAINING THE PERPETUNITY COLONIAL SITUATIONS AND REMAINING AT ODDS WITH HISTORY. HIS STRATEGY FOR PEACE IN THE HEMISPHERE IS: TOTAL SOVEREIGNTY OF THE INDEPENDENT STATES; RECUPERATION BY THE STATE OF ITS NATURAL RESOURCES; FREE DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES, COOPERATION AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN STATES.

6. CUBAN FON MIN ROA BEGAN BY DEPRECATING " RITUAL COURTESIES" AND CONSTRUCTED HIS 1 AND 1/2 HOUR SPEECH

ACCORDINGLY. ROA BUILT HIS ATTACK ON THE US AROUND THE PANAMA QUESTION AND CUBA'S PERCEPTION OF A GROWING LA SOLIDARITY IN THE FACE OF YANKEE NEO- IMPERIALISM. HE BROUGHT " BROTHER TO BROTHER SUPPORT" FOR TORRIJOS AND THE GOP IN THEIR FIGHT TO HAVE PANAMANIAN FLAG, SOVEREIGNTY, JURISDICTION AND ADMINISTRATION OVER THE CANAL. CALLING THE MEETING ITSELF A POLITICAL AND MORAL VICTORY FOR PANAMA, HE SAID THAT FOR FIRST TIME THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UN CHARTER HAD OVERCOME THE " TRADITIONAL SUBTERFUGES OF THE OAS". HE MENTIONED PANAMA, PUERTO RICO AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AS CURRENT EXAMPLES OF STRUGGLES FOR EMANICIPATION AND SAID THE TENSIONS IN PANAMA ENDANGER THE PEACE OF THE CONTINENT. THUS, PRIORITY ATTENTION MUST BE GIVEN TO CANAL PROBLEM. ROA CLAIMED. IDENTITY OF STRUGGLE IN LA, ASIA AND AFRICA AGAINST NEO- COLONIALISM AND ACCUSED THE US OF A MULTITUDE OF EVILS INCLUDING ACTING AS WORLD POLICEMAN, ATOMIC BLACKMAIL, AND PRESSURE ON SMALL STATES SUCH AS CUBA. IN LANGUAGE WHICH TYPIFIED HIS ADDRESS, THE CUBAN STATED: "... THE DOCTRINE OF THE MULTIPOLARITY OF POWERS, ELABORATED BY THE EMINENCE GRIS OF PRESIDENT NIXON IS SIMPLY A CURTAIN OF SOOT TO HIDE THE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN CAPITALISM AND SOCIALISM". CLAIMING UNDER- DEVELOPMENT AND DEPENDENCY HAD GROWN WORSE IN LA BECAUSE OF US POLICIES AND MONOPOLIES, HE ALLEGED THAT LA AND 3 RD WORLD WAR HAD LOST 1 BILLION DOLLARS AS RESULT OF RECENT DEVALUATIONS, AND GAVE STATISTICS ON POVERTY IN LA. HE ARGUED THAT THE US SOUTHERN COMMAND IS ILLEGALLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LOCATED IN THE CANAL ZONE AS AN ENFORCER OF THIS POLICY AND AN EXTENSION OF THE " SHAMEFUL" MONROE DOCTRINE. CUBA REFRAINS FROM LA UNCLEAR FREE ZONE UNTIL IT COVERS DENUCLEARIZATION OF ONLY NUCLEAR POWER IN HEMISPHERE, HE SAID. THE ECONOMIC BLOCKADE AND EMBARGO ARE THE PRICE CUBA PAID FOR BREAKING WITH US AND WITH OLIGARCHY. CUBA, CHILE AND PERU ARE EXPONENTS OF A " NEW REVOLUTION" TO CHANGE STRUCTURES AN LEAD TO EVENTUAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF LA.

7. ROA DIVERGED INTO LENGTHY AND DISTORTED HISTORY OF ISTHMUS AND US RELATIONSHIP TO IT, CONCLUDIG THAT THE ISTHMUS DOES NOT EXIST BECAUSE OF CANAL BUT THE CANAL EXISTS BECAUSE THE ISTHMUS IS THERE. THUS, CANAL SHOULD BE NATIONALIZED FOR BENEFIT OF PANAMA. ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM AND NEO- COLONIALISM INCLUDING PUERTO RICO AND GUANTANAMO SHOULD BE ELIMINATED FROM LA, HE SAID. HE CONCLUDED THAT THE SC MUST PROVIDE THE JURIDICAL AND POLITICL FRAMEWORK TO GUARANTEE PANAMA'S RIGHTS IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US.

8. IMMEDIATELY USING RIGHT OF REPLY, AMB SCALI REJECTED WITHOUT QUALIFICATION THE FALSEHOODS, THE PAGE AFTER PAGE OF CALUMNY WHICH HAS JUST BEEN DIRECTED AGAINST MY COUNTRY(SEPTEL) ROA AND UN AMB ALARCON DID NOT SHOW COURTESY OF REMAINING SEATED DURING REPLY BUT RETIRED TO BACK OF CHAMBER AND BEGAN CHATTING WITH ON-LOOKERS. COMMENT: FIRST AFTERNOON'S GENERAL DEBATE SPEECHES OFTEN NOT PLEASANT LISTENING FOR US, BUT LESS FOCUSED THAN WE FEARED. PERUVIAN SPEECH HARD- HITTING AND CONSONANT WITH TORRIJOS' MORNING OPENING, BUT CONTAINED NO SURPRISES. GUYANA, MEXICO, AND COLOMBIA WERE RELATIVELY RESTRAINED INTRODUCED OCCASIONAL BALANCING NOTES. CUBAN SPEECH, WHICH MADE SOME IMPACT ON LARGELY PANAMANIAN GALLERIES, WAS CONVENTIONAL IN RHETORIC, EMPHASIZED LOYAL SUPPORT OF PANAMA, AND CONTAINED GENEROUS DOSES OF ANTI-US, ANTI- CAPITALIST CANT WHILE MAKING ONLY PASSING REFERENCE TO GUANTANAMO, PUERTO RICO, AND LA REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS IN GENERAL. SAYRE UNQUOTE ROGERS

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